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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/519,144	12/27/2004	Yutaka Iguchi	Q85436	3196

23373 7590 11/03/2006
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EXAMINER

GETACHEW, ABIY

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2841	

DATE MAILED: 11/03/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/519,144	IGUCHI, YUTAKA	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Abiy Getachew	2841	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 27 December 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 13-16 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date: _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>12/27/2004</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

Claim 1-12 recite "COF" in line 1. However, it is not clear what "COF" entails. Since the specification does not described or express the meaning what "COF" stands for, the examiner interprets "COF" as "Chip on film" as commonly known in the art.

Election/Restrictions

1. Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:
 - I. Claims 1-12, drawn to COF film carrier tape, classified in class 174 subclass 254.
 - II. Claim13-16, drawn to Method of producing a COF film carrier, classified in class 438 subclass 117.
2. Inventions Group II and I are related as apparatus and product made. The inventions in this relationship are distinct if either or both of the following can be shown: (1) that the apparatus as claimed is not an obvious apparatus for making the product and the apparatus can be used for making a materially different product or (2) that the product as claimed can be made by another and materially different apparatus (MPEP § 806.05(g)). In this case, product can be in deferent process such as attaching a support film to a center section of the insulating layer other then opposite edges.

Art Unit: 2841

Because these inventions are independent or distinct for the reasons given above and there would be a serious burden on the examiner if restriction is not required because the inventions require a different field of search (see MPEP § 808.02), restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

During a telephone conversation with Darryl Mexic on 10/25/2006 a provisional election was made without traverse to prosecute the invention of Group I claim1-12.

Applicant in replying to this Office action must make affirmation of this election.

Claim13-16 withdrawn from further consideration by the examiner, 37 CFR 1.142(b), as being drawn to a non-elected invention.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. Claims 1-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Sakata (US 6,900,989 B2).

Regarding claim 1 Sakata discloses a COF film carrier tape (20) including a continuous insulating film (12), a wiring pattern formed (21) of a conductor layer (11) provided on a surface of the insulating film (12), and a row of sprocket holes (22) provided on either lateral side of the wiring pattern (21) on which electronic devices are to be mounted [Column 9 paragraph 2 lines 7-21], characterized in that a center section of the insulating layer (21) other than opposite longitudinal edges where the sprocket holes (22) (See figure 2b) are formed is provided with a support film formed on another surface of the insulating film (12), which surface is opposite to the surface on which the wiring pattern (21) is provided.

Regarding claim 2 as applied claim above Sakata discloses, wherein the row of sprocket holes (22) are provided with a dummy-wiring portion (12, i.e. Insulation is sometimes confused with either weatherization or thermal mass, but is distinct from both) surrounding the holes.

Regarding claim 3 as applied claim above Sakata discloses, wherein the dummy-wiring portion (12, i.e. Insulation is sometimes confused with either weatherization or thermal mass, but is distinct from both) is provided in the form of discrete islands each surrounding a sprocket hole (22).

Regarding claim 4 as applied claim above Sakata discloses, wherein the tape (20) has a predetermined distance between a longitudinal edge of the insulating layer (12) and a longitudinal edge of the dummy-wiring (12) portion. [Column 10 paragraph 4 lines 54-67]

Regarding claim 5 as applied claim above Sakata discloses, wherein the support film has a thickness, which is equal to or less than that of the insulating layer (12).

[Column 8 paragraph 3 and 4, lines 38-55]

Regarding claim 6 as applied claim above Sakata discloses, wherein the support film (20) has a thickness, which is equal to or less than that of the insulating layer (12).

[Column 8 paragraph 3 and 4, lines 38-55]

Regarding claim 7 as applied claim above Sakata discloses, COF film carrier tape according to claim 3, where the support film has a thickness which is equal to or less than that of the insulating layer (12). [Column 8 paragraph 3 and 4, lines 38-55]
(See example 5a-5e)

Regarding claim 8 as applied claim above Sakata discloses, film carrier tape (20) according to claim 4 wherein the support. (See table 4)

Regarding claim 9 as applied claim above Sakata discloses, COF film carrier tape according to claim 5, (20) wherein the support film has a thickness of 25 to 50 micrometer. [Column 10 paragraph 3 lines 25-53]

Regarding claim 10 as applied claim above Sakata discloses, wherein the support film (20) has a thickness of 25 to 50 micrometer. [Column 10 paragraph 3 lines 25-53]

Regarding claim 11 as applied claim above Sakata discloses, wherein the support film (20) has a thickness of 25 to 50 micrometer. [Column 10 paragraph 3 lines 25-53]

Regarding claim 12 as applied claim above Sakata discloses, wherein the support film (20) has a thickness of 25 to 50 micrometer. [Column 10 paragraph 3 lines 25-53]


Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Abiy Getachew whose telephone number is (571) 272 6932. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday 8Am to 4:30Pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, ENAD G. ELVIN can be reached on (571) 272 1990. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

A.G.
AU 2841
October 30, 2006


ELVIN ENAD
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
10/30/06